yet, in the very first year, non-official Presidents were appointed in three of them, and those Committees were doing very useful work. He therefore strongly urged on the Government to allow non-official Presidents at least to the Committees in the five older towns and also to confer on the Committees themselves the privilege of electing their Presidents. An amendment to secure the above object should, he said, be made in the Regulation.

He next said that the work of the Committees was considerably handicapped by the interference of the Government in the Committee's affairs. Even in 1089 there were several instances of such interference, and speaking of the town of Quilon, he said that the Committee was placed in an awkward predicament by the action of the Government in not sanctioning additional funds applied for by the Committee for paying the scavengers already entertained by them. The older Committees had been in existence for 22 years and if the Committees were not yet considered fit to be raised from their condition of pupilage, he did not know when they would be trusted to manage their own affairs. In the matter of sanitation, the powers of the Committees were very limited. The control of the roads could also with advantage be transferred to the Committees.

*Dewan.*—The question relating to the control of roads is under the considera tion of the Government.

The Member said that the Committees had also no sort of control over bakeries, hotels &c. In fact, the administration of the Committees was at present confined to supervising the sweeping and lighting of the streets and private scavenging. That, he ventured to say, was certainly no municipal administration, and if the powers of Committees could not possibly be enlarged, the non-official members would be glad to be out of the Committee.

In conclusion, the Member requested that the Regulation should be modified so as to include within it all the provisions of the British Municipalities Act and the powers vested in the Municipal Council by that Act should be conferred on the Committees. He assured the Government that it was time that such a change was made in the Regulation.

*Dewan's reply.*—Noted.

**98. Certain suggestions for the better working of the Town Improvement Committees.**

*Mr. M. D. Daniel* (Member, Nominated) made the following suggestions for the better working of the Town Improvement Committees :—

(1) The number of the non-official Members in the Nagercoil Committee should be increased to 12, and a similar increase in the strength of members and in the number of blocks made in the other towns also.

(2) The attendance of members should be enforced.

(3) The proceedings of the Committee should be conducted in the Vernacular and the proceedings of the Committee in English and in the Vernacular should appear in the same issue of the Gazette.

(4) The time of meeting of the Committee should be so fixed as to suit the convenience of the majority of the members.

(5) The office of the Committee and the Committee meetings should be held in one and the same building situated in a central place in the town.

(6) The materials required for the Committee should be obtained by the open tender system and the work to be done should also be executed by the same system. The members must have ample freedom to interpellate the President on financial and other concerns of the Committee.

(7) A local conference of the members of the several T. I. C.'s in a Division and a general conference of the representatives of all the T. I. C.'s in the State, prefer-

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ably at the Assembly session, should be held annually at specified times and places with a view to create a keen and intelligent public interest in municipal affairs.

*Dewan's reply.*—Noted.

**99. The desirability of certain improvements to Nagercoil Town.**

*Mr. D. C. Joseph* (Member, Nominated) pointed out that certain streets in the interior of the town of Nagercoil were bauly congested and insanitary and proved a menace to the public health of the town. The percolation of water from the channels and tanks and the stagnant pools formed thereby in certain places rendered matters worse. To remedy the evil, he suggested that a few tap roads should be opened, that some of the narrow streets should be widened and that certain portions of the congested area should be acquired by the Government and resold in bits to house-builders. He also suggested the widening and levelling of the existing Sircar lanes and the opening of two or three short roads. That would encourage people to put up good buildings on either side of those roads. As an instance of a lane, he referred to the lane joining the Town road and the Cape road about 500 yards west of the Kazhuvanthittai Bungalow.

The Member next said that public subscriptions to the extent of Rs. 1,000 had already been collected with a view to open a park in the town in commemoration of the Imperial Coronation. The fund was lying idle for want of a proper site. He requested that the Government should be pleased to grant a site for the purpose. He also requested that a Public Library be opened in the Town.

*Dewan's reply.*—Noted.

**100. Water-supply for the town of Nagercoil.**

*Mr. Manthramoorthi Pillai* (Member, T. I. C., Nagercoil) spoke of the scarcity of good drinking water in the town of Nagercoil, especially in the hot weather and said that the use of the bad water in the wells was often the cause of the outbreak of epidemics. He also referred to the danger to the public health of the town by the stagnation of Kodayar water from the channels in several parts of the town. He requested that the Government might be pleased to take such steps as would supply the town with a sufficient quantity of good drinking water.

*Dewan's reply.*—Noted.

**101. The desirability of increasing the Government grant to the Town Improvement Committee at Padmanabhapuram.**

*Mr. S. Lakshminarayana Iyer* (Member, T. I. C., Padmanabhapuram) said that, before the constitution of a Town Improvement Committee at Padmanabhapuram, the Government used to spend about Rs. 1,800 per annum towards the sanitation of the town and that, since the organisation of the Committee, the Government grant was fixed at Rs. 500 per annum. He added that the town stood in need of considerable improvement, by providing more lights, strengthening the T. I. C. staff etc., but the funds at the disposal of the Committee were hardly enough to meet the additional requirements. Padmanabhapuram, he stated, was more important than many of the other towns under which category it had been placed so far as the Government grant was concerned. He therefore requested that the Government might be pleased to increase the present grant to the Committee.

*Dewan's reply.*—Noted.

**102. Suggestions for the improvement of the sanitation of the town of Trivandrum.**

*Mr. T. K. Velu Pillai B. A., B. L.,* (Member, Trivandrum taluk) said that, as compared with other towns, the town of Trivandrum was far more important as being the seat of the capital, to which people from all parts of the State had to come on several occasions. The health of the town was therefore of paramount importance and required greater attention at the hands of the Government. He

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